



UNIVERSITY OF  
**GEORGIA**

Carl Vinson  
Institute of Government  
*Georgia Workforce and  
Economic Resilience Center*

**GEORGIA'S  
WORKFORCE  
CONFERENCE**

# **A Community Collaboration**

**Building Local Workforce by  
Reconnecting Incarcerated People to  
Employment**



EST. 1784  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
\* G E O R G I A \*

**“A Community Collaboration: Building Local Workforce by Reconnecting Formerly Incarcerated People to Employment.”**

CVIQG Workforce Conference 2024  
University of Georgia  
November 13, 2024



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# Today's Presenters...

**Major Corey King**, Washington County Sheriff's Office

**Rev. Patrick Wilson**, Director, WC Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program

**Allison McAfee**, Executive Director, Family Connections of Washington County

**Kim David**, Vice-President of Economic Development, Oconee Fall Line Technical College

**Conni Fennell-Burley**, UGA Archway Partnership, Washington County, GA



# Washington County Sherriff's Office Joel Cochran, Sheriff



# WC Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program (RSAT)

Why an RSAT Program?

What is It?

How Did It Get Started?



# Men for Life after Incarceration...

## 3 Step Plan:

- **RECOVERY**
- **REHABILITATION**
- **RE-EDUCATION**



# Family Connections of Washington County



## Teaching and Facilitating Classes

- Anger Management
- Moral Reconnection Therapy
- Life Skills and Team Building
- Seeking Safety



## Reconnecting Families

- Family Visits
- Birthday
- Videos for Children



## Follow Up

- Making contact with participants after graduation to offer support or referral to resource



# Second Chance Hiring

**The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)** is a federal tax credit available to employers for hiring individuals from certain targeted groups who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. In general, the WOTC is equal to 40% of up to \$6,000 of wages paid to an individual of a targeted group.



## **FEDERAL BONDING PROGRAM**

Provides access to \$5,000-\$25,000 of fidelity bond coverage for an employee's first six months of employment. Protects employers against employee theft, forgery, larceny and embezzlement.







# OFTC Partnership with RSAT



**Economic Development**  
AT OCONEE FALL LINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE



- Industrial Workplace Fundamentals Course
  - 2-week course providing industry recognized credentials
    - OSHA 10 General Industry
    - Medic First Aid
    - Forklift Safety
    - NorthStar Digital Literacy
    - WorkKeys Assessment



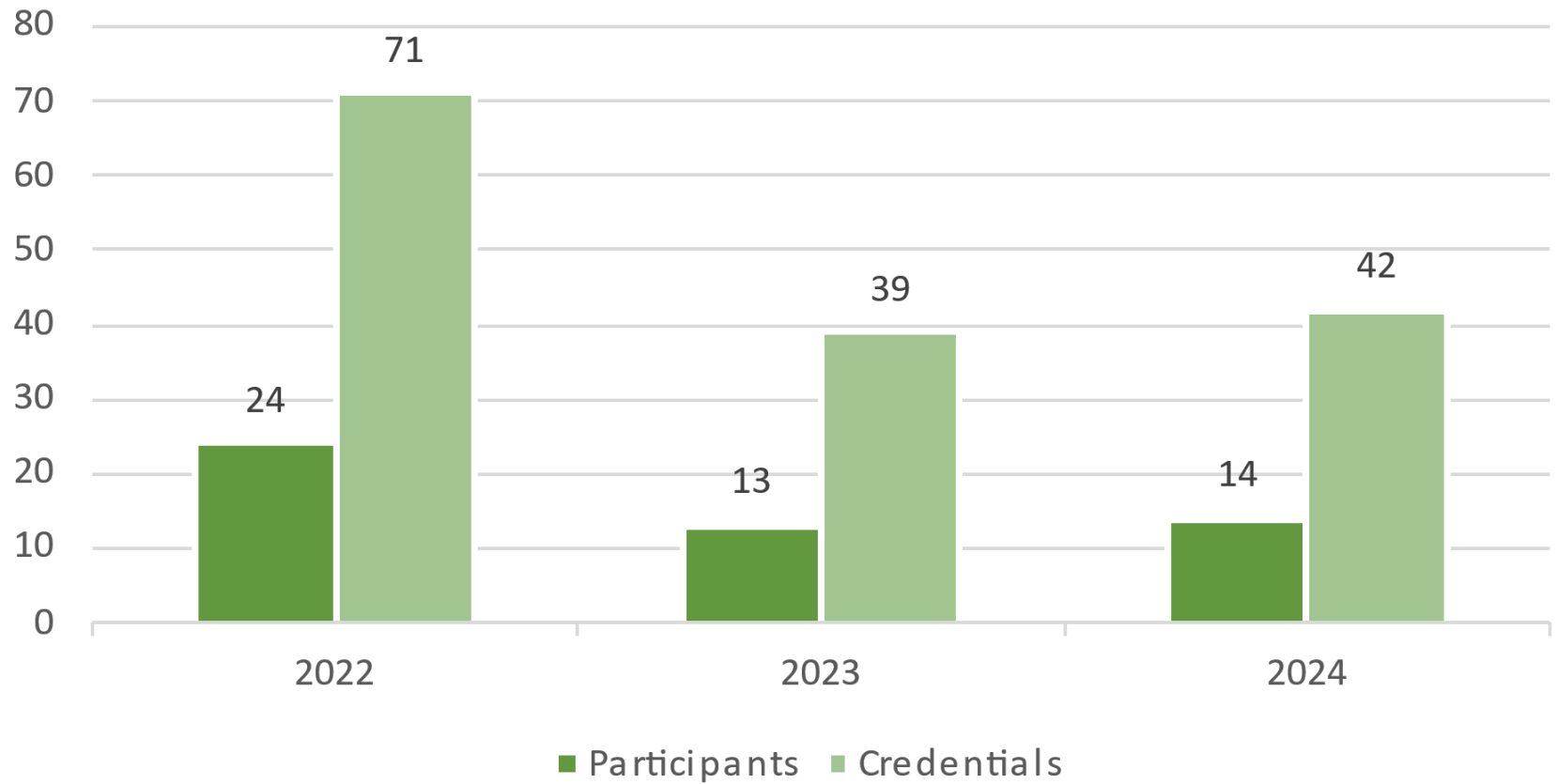


## Adult Education

- Adult Education and high school equivalency preparation
  - Free classes to prepare those who need the GED
  - Career Services and Job Preparation
  - Work ethics
- GED Testing
- Transition to credit programs
  - Campus tours
  - Transition and career services



## Washington RSAT Program IWF Results



# Success and Challenges..

1

Kendall P.- 2022

Kendall used his forklift training from Oconee Fall Line Technical College and was hired at Project Safety of Georgia, LLC.

2

Ronald M.-2022

Ronald is currently employed at Washington EMC as a lineman. Ronald and the crew he supervises worked 20 straight 12 hr shifts after the hurricane.

3

Neil P. – 2022

Neil is currently employed as a contractor with a local industry. Recognized as an excellent employee, the company would like to hire him as an official employee. However, policy does not allow employing a felon.

4

Roscoe W- 2024

Roscoe is employed by Trojan Battery and has received two promotions. A prior incident surfaced, putting his job in question. His success in RSAT and his employment record garnered him a release back to work.



# Outcomes. Is it Working???

- 7 Cohorts (?)
- 76 Participants
- 58 Graduates
- 76.3% Graduation Rate
- 6.5% Reoffended
  
- **94% EMPLOYED**



# Couldn't Do It Without Our Partners!



The Vital Link  
Tennille, Georgia



# Questions?



# Thank You for Joining Us Today!



## Washington County RSAT Program

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program





# Contact Information

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